Amendments to the Claims: CHANGES BY EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A vector for producing a polypeptide heterologous to prokaryotic cells comprising (1) anti-termination nucleic acid that inhibits intragenic transcription termination with a non-lambda promoter therefor, ~~and~~ (2) ~~RNA~~ DNA encoding the polypeptide with a non-lambda promoter therefor, wherein an RNA recognition site for binding anti-termination protein produced from the nucleic acid is located 5' of the ~~RNA~~ DNA encoding the polypeptide, and (3) nucleic acid encoding a GreA or GreB protein with a promoter therefor.
2. (canceled)

2~~3~~. (original) The vector of claim 1 wherein the prokaryotic cells are bacterial cells.

3~~4~~. (original) The vector of claim 1 wherein the polypeptide is a mammalian polypeptide.

4~~5~~. (original) The vector of claim 1 wherein the non-lambda promoter is a *trp* or alkaline phosphatase promoter or both.

5~~6~~. (currently amended) A process for ~~producing~~ increasing production of a full-length heterologous polypeptide as a percentage of total such heterologous polypeptide in prokaryotic host cells comprising:

(a) culturing the host cells, which comprise (1) anti-termination nucleic acid that inhibits intragenic transcription termination with a non-lambda promoter therefor, and (2) RNA encoding the polypeptide wherein the RNA is expressed from a gene with a non-lambda promoter therefor, wherein an RNA recognition site for binding anti-termination protein produced from the nucleic acid is located 5' of the RNA encoding the polypeptide, and wherein the anti-termination nucleic acid is expressed at the time of expression of the ~~gene expressed from the~~ RNA; and

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(b) recovering the heterologous polypeptide from the cells or from cell culture medium, whereby the amount of full-length heterologous polypeptide produced by the process is increased as a percentage of total said heterologous polypeptide produced.

6 7. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is a eukaryotic polypeptide.

7 8. (original) The process of claim 6 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is a mammalian polypeptide.

8 9. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein the mammalian polypeptide is a human polypeptide.

9 10. original) The process of claim 8 wherein the human polypeptide is thrombopoietin (TPO) or fibroblast growth factor-5 (FGF-5).

10 11. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the non-lambda promoter is a *trp* or alkaline phosphatase promoter or both.

11 12. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the RNA and anti-termination nucleic acid comprise a polycistronic genetic unit comprising a first cistron encoding the heterologous polypeptide and a second cistron downstream from the first cistron that is the anti-termination nucleic acid with a single promoter that controls transcription of said polycistronic genetic unit.

12 13. (currently amended) The process of claim 5 wherein the ~~gene expressed from the~~ RNA and anti-termination nucleic acid are expressed under separate promoters. PSR 9/13/05

13 14. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the prokaryotic cells are bacterial cells.

14 15. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the polypeptide is recovered from the cytoplasm or periplasm of the cells.

15 16. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the polypeptide is recovered from the cell culture medium.

16 17. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the anti-termination nucleic acid is a bacteriophage N or Q gene.

17 18. (original) The process of claim 16 wherein the anti-termination nucleic acid is a lambda N gene.

18 19. (original) The process of claim 17 wherein the RNA recognition site is a nut site.

19 ~~20~~. (original) The process of claim ~~19~~ 18 wherein the nut site is lambda nutL, nutR, Box B, mutant nut, or nut from a lambdoid phage other than lambda phage.

20 ~~21~~. (original) The process of claim ~~6~~ 5 wherein the host cells further comprise nucleic acid encoding a GreA or GreB protein with a promoter therefor.

21 ~~22~~. (original) The process of claim ~~21~~ 20 wherein nucleic acid encoding GreB is expressed.

Claims 23-26 (canceled)

22 ~~27~~. (Currently amended) A process for ~~producing~~ increasing production of a full-length heterologous polypeptide as a percentage of total such heterologous polypeptide in prokaryotic host cells comprising:

(a) culturing the host cells, which comprise nucleic acid encoding GreA or GreB protein, nucleic acid encoding the heterologous polypeptide, and one or more promoters for the nucleic acids; and

(b) recovering the heterologous polypeptide from the cells or from cell culture medium, whereby the amount of full-length heterologous polypeptide produced by the process is increased as a percentage of total said heterologous polypeptide produced.

23 ~~28~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein nucleic acid encoding GreB protein is expressed.

24 ~~29~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein the cells are bacterial cells.

25 ~~30~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein the heterologous polypeptide is a mammalian polypeptide.

26 ~~31~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein the mammalian polypeptide is a human polypeptide.

27 ~~32~~. (original) The process of claim ~~31~~ 26 wherein the human polypeptide ~~Polypeptide~~ is thrombopoietin (TPO) or fibroblast growth factor-5 (FGF-5).

28 ~~33~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein the promoter is a *trp* or alkaline phosphatase promoter or both.

29 ~~34~~. (original) The process of claim ~~27~~ 22 wherein the polypeptide is recovered from the cytoplasm or periplasm of the cells.

30~~35~~. (original) The process of claim ~~21~~ 22 wherein the polypeptide is recovered from the cell culture medium.